

Meteor-Heraut

Published by the 80th Area Support Group

Volume 23, Number 5

Chièvres - Schinnen - Brussels

March 11, 2005

Quick Read

In General

University of Maryland Scholarships Available

University of Maryland University College has over 70 scholarships of up to \$500 available to spouses and other for the current academic year. UMUC has broadened eligibility for the *Military Student Support Fund Scholarship*. Now, military spouses and other family members may apply. Additionally, reservists and service members transitioning to civilian life are eligible. Deadline for applications is May 1. For more information, visit www.ed.umuc.edu/fso.

West Point Founders Day

A West Point Founders Day dinner for graduates, ex-cadets, cadet parents, former faculty and friends is set for March 19, 7 p.m., at a Belgian Army Officer's Club in Brussels. Dress is formal. Call C. Westpheling at 010 810-345 or email at charles.westpheling@usa.net for information.

Lost Personal Data of DoD Government Travel Cards

In December, Bank of America suffered the loss of computer data tapes which contained government travel card account numbers and personal information for 1.1 million DoD government travel cardholders. Bank of America began mailing notification letters to cardholders Feb. 25. Those who receive notification letters should consider placing a fraud alert on their credit files. DoD cardholders should be extra vigilant for indications others are trying to exploit their personal information. If a cardholder detects fraudulent activity on a government travel card, he or she should contact Bank of America immediately. General information is available at http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/consumertopics_bk.html.

Belgium

SHAPE/Chièvres/Daumerie shuttle bus boosts service

The 80th Area Support Group, Directorate of Logistics, Transportation Division recently revised the shuttle bus schedule. The new schedule increases service. Call 423-4571 for info.

Netherlands and Germany

Future leaders meet

Future Business Leaders of America host a conference March 23-25 at Edelweiss Hotel in Garmisch, Germany. Students ages 14-18 from American schools in Europe test business knowledge and skills. Info: Bertha Manning, Ramstein High School, DSN 480-6951, or 49 6371 476-6951, or Bertha_Manning@eu.dodea.edu.

NATO, USAREUR, 80th ASG give host nations 'Thank you'

By J.D. Hardesty

For 60 years, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands have honored America's sons and daughters who sacrificed so much for the Liberation of Europe.

March 3, it was the Americans' turn to say thank you and pay tribute to our host nation's in the Benelux.

"From the liberation of Nazi oppression through the cold war to the Global War on Terrorism, America, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands have relied on each other and shared 60 years of freedom," Marine Lt. Gen. Edward Hanlon Jr., U.S. military representative to NATO Military Committee, told 15 host nation civic augmentees and friends gather at Caserne Daumerie, Chièvres, Belgium, from across the Benelux being honored for their support to U.S. Forces, as well as an estimated 75 others gathered from around the 80th Area Support Group's footprint.

"Guarding freedom continues," he said. "Beyond guards standing watch while 80th ASG tenants work and sleep, there are thousands of quick responders who provide a critical role in protecting a lot more than Americans throughout Europe.



PHOTO: J.D. Hardesty

Army Maj. Gen. Walter Wojdakowski, acting deputy commanding general, U.S. Army Europe (left) and Marine Lt. Gen. Edward Hanlon Jr., U.S. military representative to NATO Military Committee, express their gratitude as they congratulate (from right) Peter Arts, Philippe Collart and Lt. Col. Fernand Guth, three of the 15 host nation civic augmentees and friends from across the Benelux who were recognized for their service focused on force protection service or on the 60th commemoration of the liberation of Europe celebrations.

Many of these first responders, such as Chief Karel Arzt of the Schinnen Police Base, Lt. Col. Jan Cremers, Belgian supervisor of Chièvres Air Base, and Edouard

Francois, head of the Bauffe farmers, have provided critical advice and liaison work to ensure a safe environment to U.S. Forces, civilians and their families.

"As our storied history as Allies defines our future vision, it is with rare opportunity we bring civic augmentees and friends from

See THANKS Page 3

Surgeon recalls POW experience

By Rick Haverinen

In a Victorian melodrama, the heroine was the woman tied to the railroad tracks until the hero came by to free her and vanquish the villain.

Given that standard, Col. Rhonda Cornum, M.D. may better fit the hero role rather than the heroine.

Cornum was keynote speaker at a Women's History Month presentation March 4 on Daumerie Caserne and she arrived in Chièvres with a figurative steamer trunk of credentials.

Most notably, Cornum became something of a celebrity in the U.S. Army as one of two female prisoners of war held by the enemy during the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

"When 1991 happened, and I came back from the war, and all of a sudden I got asked to

speaking about things I didn't think I was any more able to talk about than I had been the year before when no one asked." Cornum told her audience in Daumerie Caserne. "I got asked about women in combat, women in the military, women

in fighter aviation. I got asked to talk at prayer breakfasts. I assure you I had never had that happen before. And so I thought to myself, 'Man, do they think going to war and being captured makes you an expert on any of those things?'"

That was just one of many common-sense questions and observations Cornum used to de-

light her audience on March 4.

Cornum was a flight surgeon in the right and wrong place in Iraq and the right and wrong

time on Feb. 27, 1991 when her helicopter crew was called to pick up an F16 pilot who had been shot down. That was the right part of their mission. Enroute their helicopter's tail section was shot out while flying at low altitude, probably by the same Iraqi crew that had shot down the F-16 pilot a kilometer away. The subsequent crash killed five out of eight crew members on Cornum's flight. Both her arms were broken, a knee was shattered and she was shot in the shoulder. To complicate that situation, Iraqi Soldiers were poking through the wreckage and captured the survivors.

"The enemy's going to do a lot of bad things," Cornum said. "If they capture you the day before the war ends, you're much less likely to get pounded on, than if they capture you six or eight weeks before. But there's a lot of bad things they can do and so you have to organize them in the order of their significance. The one thing they did which in my mind was quite significant was that I'm getting interrogated and moved along the path of getting to Baghdad. They threw me down in this group of Iraqi Soldiers and they're surrounding me now, and I'm

See CORNUM Page 3



Col. Rhonda Cornum, M.D.

Gas price rises

MAINZ-KASTEL – The Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) announced overseas fuel prices will jump for those assigned in Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Turkey and the Azores.

The new overseas fuel prices went into effect Mar. 1. In the Netherlands, fuel sell prices for all grades including diesel were set at the "floor" selling price, per AAFES Board of Directors policy, the announcement noted. "Floor" prices occur when the cost of fuel plus dispensing costs is greater than the Department of Energy average plus dispensing

costs. Exchange customers filling up their gas tanks in the Netherlands will see an increase for super-unleaded fuel to \$2.263 per gallon, the price for super-plus unleaded will climb to \$2.522 per gallon, and the price for diesel fuel will rise to \$2.365 per gallon.

AAFES does not dispense fuel in Belgium. Fuel cards are purchased from Fina and resold to personnel with ration cards supporting the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers, Europe/NATO community. According to Kathy Morgan, a

See GAS Page 3



Col. Dean A. Nowowiejski
80th ASG Commander

This week marks the beginning of the Army Family Action Plan process within the 80th Area Support Group. Since we operate American military communities in support of NATO, we call the process the Armed Forces Ac-

Nowowiejski Notes

tion Plan (AFAP) here in the Benelux. This is a great time to highlight the process. Basically, AFAP is a grass roots opportunity for your voice, concerns and good ideas to be heard.

Each community in the Group is holding an AFAP conference. The NATO Support Activity led off earlier this week with their conference. They held a teen AFAP as well. AFNORTH in Brunssum, The Netherlands, also held a teen AFAP this week. The 254th Base Support Battalion is holding its AFAP Conference as this newspaper hits the stands on March 11. Later this month, on March 21, SHAPE American High School will also hold a teen AFAP session facilitated by Jean Andersen. The final community AFAP will be the USAG Chievres AFAP on March 22-23 at the SHAPE IC Club.

The way an AFAP Conference works is for members of the community, be they military, civilian, or family member, to come together to discuss and prioritize issues in the community that are of concern to them. Issues are solved by local commanders when they can be. Otherwise, each conference forwards their top issues to the next higher level. The top issues of the Brussels, Schinnen and SHAPE/Chievres communities will be reviewed by a Tri-Mission sub committee convened by 80th ASG Army Community Services on March 24. I will review these collective ASG issues, too. Our 80th ASG issues will go to the U.S. Army, Europe AFAP Conference to be held May 22-26 in Heidelberg along with six se-

lected community representatives. You may have seen a separate memo on this conference as well as an AFN spot from Gen. and Mrs. Bell asking for your participation.

This is part of a worldwide process which ultimately brings issues from around the world to a General Officer Steering Committee at Department of the Army. That forum is the final one conducted each year to act upon and make decisions within the AFAP process for that year. What ultimately results from the AFAP process are changes to regulations, authorizations, policies or even national laws in order to make our communities better places to live and work. Issues that are valid but not solved are carried forward onto a master list.

Examples of DA level AFAP issues from last year were family member eyeglass coverage, leave accrual for service members, and the doubling of the number of childcare fee categories. Examples of outstanding issues being carried forward from previous years are distribution of Montgomery GI Bill benefits to dependents, modification of the weight allowance table for PCS (permanent change of station) moves, and in-state tuition for military family members.

This is your chance to be heard. There are suggestion boxes for AFAP issues at each community ACS offices. Commanders at each level respond to these concerns. Ultimately you may affect DA policy. If you missed your local conference, but still want to submit an issue for later consideration, please contact your local ACS director.

Letter to the Editor

Army takes care of its own

Being around the Army for almost 30 years, I sometimes overlook how much the Army real takes care of its own. Every once in a while, something happens that reinforces my belief in Army Values and the Army Family.

The following incident is true and makes me proud to serve a great institution. My friend, a Soldier and father, has been in Iraq

for the last 12 months. He was about to return to his home station in Germany, but I was not sure of the details (when, ceremony, etc.). I looked through the phone book and found the telephone number for his unit's rear detachment SDO (staff duty officer). I called and stated my story which included some unusual information; the Soldier and my daughter are not married and together, they have a baby girl. I wanted to know if there was any way my daughter and the baby could be there to greet this fine Soldier when he returns. I wanted to explain further when I was interrupted by the NCO on the phone who said very di-

rectly, "We will take care of it, give me a name and a phone number, I will have them picked up at the gate, transported to the homecoming ceremony and escorted to the meeting place until the three meet again." I thanked the Soldier on the phone for his understanding and help but what I did not do was say simple, thanks for taking care of our family, the Army family.

I got home that night and explained to my wife that it may be possible for our daughter and granddaughter to be there to greet boyfriend/daddy. About an hour later, we got a call from my daughter who explained that she had been contacted and

told of how she would be picked up and transported to the ceremony to greet her loved one and the father of her child. My wife asked me, "How did you do this?" I stated I did nothing. The short answer is the Army takes care of its own.

The story of the three meeting, well that is another happy story better kept private between the Soldier, mommy and daughter. Thank you Soldiers, civilians and family members for taking care of our great Army family. Thank you Soldiers for protecting our freedom and making me proud to be a member of the army family.

Name withheld by request



PHOTO: Courtesy Brussels American School

5th-grade graduates

Darin-the-Lion, D.A.R.E.'s mascot, is joined by Claire Rumery, one of 30 Brussels American School fifth graders to graduate from the D.A.R.E. program Feb. 18.

D.A.R.E. Officer, Sgt. Jeremy R. Thomas, taught the 10-week course designed to educate children on the dangers of drug use. Peer pressure and problem solving skills were also addressed to help the children make safe and healthy lifestyle choices.

Each of the graduates received a diploma, a T-shirt and other assorted gifts. Andrews Federal Credit Union also awarded \$50 savings bonds to Kelly Cournoyer (best D.A.R.E. essay), Peter Oppenheim (Officers Choice based on superb overall performance), and Alexandra McVicker as the "Top Graduate."

Prayer breakfast shared in SHAPE community

By Rick Haverinen

A senior chaplain in Europe used a Feb. 10 prayer breakfast to lament that the communication of prayer is underutilized.

Chaplain (Col.) Ronald Strong, Installation Management Agency Euro-Region Chaplain, told the audience at the SHAPE Officers Club that "We are living in a prayer-less society. A society that has taken prayer out of the courthouse, prayer out of the schoolhouse, and some people have taken prayer out of their own house. Some one said so eloquently that prayer is the only six characters that you can't find in school. Therefore, the need of the hour is powerful, persistent, passionate, prevailing prayer. I think the need is far greater than most of God's people realize."

Strong used survey results to demonstrate that the current religious community demonstrates signs of spiritual ambiguity when backing up faith with prayer.

"Did you know that 44 percent of people believe in the absolute truth of the Bible?" Strong asked. "On March 31, 1997, Newsweek magazine published the result of a survey on people's prayer beliefs and habits. The title was 'Is God Listening?' Eighty-seven percent of the people believe that God answers prayers, but only 54 percent pray daily, and 25 percent of the 54 pray only one time a day and 29 percent pray more than one time a day. I raise this issue because I believe that we have failed to find the available resource that God has left for us, and we have left God out of the picture, because without God in the picture our society will continue to be a prayer-less society."

Strong said the symptom of a society without prayer is marked with stark contrasts in which, "We have bigger house but smaller homes, we have conveniences but a lot less time, we have larger salaries but less love, we have learned to make a living but we have not made a life, if we



PHOTO: Rick Haverinen

Chaplain (Col.) Ronald Strong

are not broke we're burned out, we've cleaned the air but we've polluted our souls, the harder you work the less you have, the more you give the less you get. I think many in our society have a lot in the showroom of our lives but nothing in the stock room of our souls. To fix this problem, we need to show up daily and give God a blank sheet and sign it with our signature of surrender."

Strong said God provides three answers to prayer: "Yes, no and wait."

"And when it comes to wait, we have a problem," Strong said. "I'll tell you why, because we live in an instant society; instant coffee, instant tea, instant grits, and for some, instant hair. We have a Burger King mentality. We want it our way, instead of God's way. But sometimes God wants us to wait. Instead of us bringing a list demands, we ought to stand before God and just report for duty."

MPs return from deployment in Iraq

By Rick Haverinen

Two military police dog handlers have returned to Belgium after taking a bite out of crime and threat to U.S. military personnel in Iraq.

Staff Sgt. Anthony Bly and Staff Sgt. Jose Nuñez, both of 230th Military Police Co., work in Chièvres for the 80th Area Support Group Provost Marshal's Office and both returned in late February from seven and six month tours in Iraq working with police dogs.

"I was the kennel master," Bly said. "I was responsible for 30 military working dog teams stationed as far north as Mozul in Iraq and as far south as Bucca. Sgt. Nuñez was the NCOIC of the military working dogs out of Balad Airbase, and he did a lot of movement of dog teams in and out of the theater."

Bly said the working dog teams primarily worked force protection missions to prevent explosives from being sneaked into U.S. military compounds.

"Also teams went out on raids for insurgents," Bly said, "and when they went in, they would capture the insurgents and then the dog teams would go in and conduct the search of the area to make sure they got all



PHOTO: Rick Haverinen

Staff Sgt. Jose Nuñez plays with his military working dog, Ajax, a few days after returning from Iraq.

of their explosives and ammunition and whatever else they were hiding."

Both NCOs were in Iraq when the country had its first post-Saddam Hussein election Jan. 30 in which insurgents threatened to kill Iraqi nationals who voted. Despite the intimidation, Iraqis participated in the voting in great numbers.

"I got a lot of feedback because we played a critical part in that as well," Bly said. "A lot of dog teams went out and searched the polling stations, and that was Mozul and Baghdad. In those areas that was pretty dangerous."

Bly said U.S. troops were happy to see

the popularity of the Iraqi election.

"In talking with a couple colleagues, I think they realized the elections went well," Bly said. "You could actually see some decrease in attacks against us."

While Bly went to operate the kennels and supervise the dog teams, Nuñez flew to Iraq with Ajax, an eight year-old German Shepard that at first had some trouble adjusting to the elevated temperatures.

"He had some problems when he first got there," Nuñez said. "It was really hot so he didn't want to work. When we arrived in

Kuwait at 1 a.m. it was 121 degrees. It took him a while to get used to it."

Bly said his dog teams were successful in detecting weapons and explosives in Iraq.

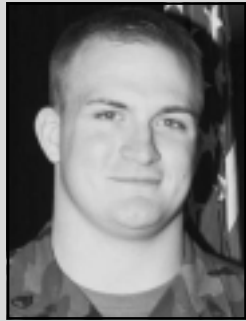
"I know there were teams that found grenade launchers and sniper rifles and ammunition," Bly said, "and I think the biggest success was the psychological deterrent."

Bly said while the ability of the dogs to detect explosives intimidated the insurgents, and at the same time reassured U.S. military personnel.

"It was a boost of confidence for them because they'd see the dog teams out there and they felt safer," Bly said.

80th ASG names NCO, Soldier of the Year

The 80th Area Support Group has named the winners of this year's NCO and Soldier of the Year competitions.



Kolbe

Staff Sgt. Kevin Kolbe, a military police physical security inspector from HHC, 80th ASG, was named NCO

of the Year. Pfc. Steven Turbitt, a military patrolman also from HHC, 80th ASG, was named Soldier of the Year. Each Soldier received an Army Commendation Medal; an eagle statue courtesy of the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation; gift certificates from the Army Air Force Exchange Service; and a savings bond from Andrews Federal Credit Union.



Turbitt

THANKS from Page 1

across the Benelux footprint together to honor their service as they focus on our continued safety, security and freedom," Hanlon said. "All of the 80th ASG, senior U.S. Army, Europe and NATO leaders express our sincere appreciation for your responsiveness in keeping our military communities safe and secure.

While force protection remains at the forefront for military forces, Maj. Gen. Walter Wojdakowski, addressed several special guests who represent a myriad of civilians to have worked to honor liberating forces for their sacrifices in 1944-45.

"From D-Day on the beaches of Normandy, through Paris, Luxembourg, the Ardennes Forest to Amsterdam, Allied veterans, citizens who lived through WWII and their children are celebrating this year -- the 60th Anniversary of the liberation of Europe," he said. "Battling oppression took more than just 'boys in boots.' It took the combination of fighting forces and citizens throughout the Benelux leading

the resistance against tyranny and occupation -- the battlefield in those days included everyone."

Wojdakowski highlighted wreath-laying ceremonies in Diekirch, Wiltz and the American Military Cemetery in Luxembourg when citizens honored those who have fallen in battle.

"Taps -- the easily recognizable 24 notes of a military bugle call rendering emotion, honor and respect, was heard in cemeteries and at memorials for those American Soldiers who fought in the Ardennes, Malmedy, Macquenoise and Bastogne for the liberation of Belgium," he said.

"And so many of Belgium's heartland came together to pay tribute and prayer for their freedom and liberty paid for so many years ago by American forces and civilians alike, he explained. "So today, we are recognizing a small number of folks who have helped with the 60th year commemoration.... It is our turn to say thanks to all of you, thank you for your friendship and to give you praise and to honor you."

Force Protection Awardees

- Chief Karel Arzt;** Schinnen Police Base
- 2nd Lt. Y. Bultsma;** Koninklijke Marechaussee Heerlen
- Lt. Col. Jan Cremers;** Belgian Suprv. of Chièvres, AB
- Jos Diederer;** Commander, Schinnen Fire Department
- Edouard François;** head of the Bauffe farmers
- Adj. Gerald J.H. Kuipers;** Koninklijke Marechaussee Heerlen
- Commandant Thierry Pirenne;** Host Nation Section, Belgian Army Territorial Command
- Commissaire Didier Schot;** SHAPE Federal Police
- 60th Anniversary**
- Peter Arts;** Hell on Wheels Memorial Committee
- Mr. Philippe Collard;** Mayor of Bastogne
- Mrs. Giselle Cuypers;** City of La Roche-en-Ardenne
- Dr. Paul Delahaye;** Chairman, Belgian-American Found.
- Lt. Col. Fernand Guth;** Luxembourg Army
- Comm. André Mathieu;** Chief, Police Zone 5301, Bastogne

CORNUM from Page 1

looking at the guy across from me who was also thrown down and he's one of the other survivors from my crash."

Cornum thought the survivors would be killed.

"The guy's got a gun at the back of my head and I'm working really hard at thinking something positive," Cornum told the audience, "but he didn't shoot me. It was a mock execution. They did that. They must have trained them in 'How to Take Care of POWs School.' The thing goes click and you're not dead. You're up and you go to jail. So if it's going to kill you, that is worrisome. If it's going to permanently disable you, that's worrisome. If it's going to prevent you from getting home, that's really worrisome. And other than that, everything else is kind of in the B pile."

Cornum was sexually assaulted, interrogated and after eight days of captivity she and the other 25 POWs were exchanged for Iraqi prisoners captured by the Allies.

"What I absolutely know now, that perhaps I just assumed before, I know that woman are like men," Cornum said, "that they're pretty normal people and will respond differently to various things. People will try to make general predictions. We had 26 POWs. Two of them were women, that means 24 of them were something else. One of two women is still on active duty, that would be me, and one is not. Of the 24 men, only three are on active duty, and 21 are not. Does that mean women are tougher and they tolerate it better, and stay in better, because 50 percent of the women stayed in? It doesn't mean that, but it certainly doesn't mean that women are less able to tolerate it, which is what everybody apparently thought before."

Cornum is now commander of Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, an assignment in which she can combine her experiences as a flight surgeon, a combat injury patient, a prisoner of war, and even her experience

gained in the 1990s dealing with media as U.S. military personnel from current Middle East fighting are received at that facility for treatment.

Using herself as an example, Cornum testified before the U.S. Congress in 1992 that the DoD should shelve its qualms in assigning combat roles to women.

"What I want to impress on people is that in the military, just like other things, it's important to let everybody compete and pick the best," Cornum said.

Cornum told the audience that some people are threatened by the very thought that women might serve in combat roles, so she was going to talk about something non-threatening, the Kentucky Derby.

"Horses are like people," Cornum said. "They come out about 50-50 male and female. The Kentucky Derby has been run since 1875. That means about 130 of them have been run. Only three of them have won by a filly. That was Genuine Risk in

1980, Regret in 1915, and Winning Colors in 1988. In 129 races, three fillies have won. Some people will tell you, 'Obviously fillies are slower since 50 percent of the horses are female, and only three percent that have won have been female.' It's not true, but it is true that those statistics are correct, that three won in 130 times. But some people will tell you that fillies are faster because only one percent of the entries have been fillies and 2 1/2 times as many fillies have won as you would expect statically."

"Winning Colors did in fact demonstrate that she was one of the best thoroughbred Americans in 1988. What I also know is if we had not let her compete, she would not have been able to demonstrate that. So I would ask, as we are going forward in history, that we allow everyone to compete and that the best possible (outcome) will be the result."

Cornum recorded her 1991 experiences in the book, "She Went to War."

GAS from Page 1

cashier supervisor at the AAFES Chièvres Air Base Post/Base Exchange, Fina 200-liter fuel cards in Belgium climbed nearly 8 percent to \$108.39 for unleaded grade 95, a jump of 15 cents per gallon. Other fuel card increased to \$114.97 for super unleaded grade 98, a 16-cent per gallon hike; and 128.13 for diesel fuel, a 19-cent increase per gallon, according to Kathy Morgan,

In Germany, the AAFES per gallon prices will climb: unleaded — \$2.073; super-unleaded fuel—\$2.170, super plus

— \$2.265, diesel — 2.162 respectively. AAFES' customers in the United Kingdom will see an increase to \$2.104 a gallon for super-unleaded fuel. Diesel fuel customers' fuel costs will be \$2.096 per gallon. Elsewhere in Europe, AAFES reported gas prices will increase in the Azores for super plus unleaded will increase to \$2.210 per gallon. In Turkey, prices for super plus will rise to \$2.218 per gallon while the prices for super-unleaded fuel coupons and diesel will remain at \$2.340 and \$2.280 respectively.

According to the Department of Energy, the average price for regular unleaded fuel in the U.S. is 21.7 cents a gallon higher than it was at the same time last year. AAFES uses U.S. average fuel prices as an index to set its overseas prices. For the 4 weeks ending Feb. 22, the Department of Energy's average price for all grades of gasoline, including diesel, jumped resulting in an average per gallon price hike of nearly 10 cents for unleaded grades and 4 cents for diesel fuel.

254th BSB Tri-border News

CYS facelift a hit with staff, kids

Story and photos by Laurri Garcia

Members of the Tri-border community joined Lt. Col. Richard S. Richardson, 254th Base Support Battalion (BSB) commander and Col. Dean A. Nowowiejski, 80th Area Support Group (ASG) commander to celebrate the grand opening of the newly remodeled Youth Service Center on Joint Forces Command Brunssum, Feb. 22.

Ashley Arett, a junior at AFNORTH International School opened the ceremony with a speech and special thank you to Lt. Col. Richardson and Col. Nowowiejski for providing the funds needed to accomplish the renovation.

Adults and teens alike marveled at the newly remodeled facility. "I think the work done here is spectacular," stated 13-year-old Candace Waters, "now there's lots of space, and the equipment is the bomb."

The renovation took an old, drab facility and turned it into a place kids want to come to and hang out. "I like the new stuff and lots of kids are using it," said Josh Morris a 13-year-old 7th grader who says he uses the facility 4 to 5 times a week. "They have new stereos, games, and a surround sound TV. I like to do my homework here with Mr. Byrnes, the homework guy," stated Morris, "and the staff is really cool."

The facility once burdened by a lack of space and sub-standard equipment showed like a model; everything,



'We are all very proud of our new style Youth Services,'

Kathryn Thomas
Lead Education Technician

new, clean, and well arranged. "This is something to be proud of," remarked Richardson.

Of particular note is the new computer room. Kids can access the internet or do their homework, and for those looking to kill a bit of time the YS shows off a new pool table, large screen televisions, a foosball table, a piano, and new video game equipment. Everything a teen needs to study, learn, or entertain themselves.

"This endeavor was made possible by a culmination of many long hours and the efforts of team collaboration between 254th BSB, Directorate of Public Works (DPW), Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DMWR), Youth Services (YS) and Safety," stated Joanne Hernandez, Child and Youth Services Coordinator. "Without their work, our youth would be missing out on a wonderful facility and the opportunities this affords them."

Kathryn Thomas, Lead Education Technician for the YS summed up the sentiments conveyed by all, "We are all very proud of our new style YS and are very grateful to the command for giving us the funding to make it all possible."



Top: Left to right, Ashley Arett, Col. Dean A. Nowowiejski, 80th ASG commander, and Lt. Col. Richard S. Richardson, 254th BSB commander cut the ribbon at the CYS grand re-opening.

Top Left: Lt. Col. Richardson tackles new video games with teens.

Top Right: Playing a friendly game of foosball, one of the new recreational additions to CYS.

Right: Girls take advantage of the new computer room.



Meeting updates construction news

By Sylvia Bowron

Members of the Tri-border community attended the Base Support Battalion (BSB) quarterly Town Hall meeting held by Lt. Col. Richard S. Richardson, Battalion commander Feb. 26 in the Schinnen Sports Center.

Richardson welcomed everyone and provided the community an update on what has transpired since the last meeting in November.

The new basketball/volleyball court behind the Schinnen Fitness Center was completed and had their grand opening in January. This project has given the center additional floor space inside for new and better equipment for patrons.

One major construction project nearing completion is the laying of new fiber optic computer lines that will provide faster and better connectivity for base employees to

do their work in providing assistance to the battalion's customers. The commander thanked everyone for their patience while roads are being dug to lay the new lines, making traveling on post difficult at times.

The next phase of construction, which will be the resurfacing of the roads and sidewalks, will begin soon and is expected, be completed in the fall.

Another major construction project is the renovation/upgrade of the commissary store. The new deli, bakery and produce departments are in and the next stage is underway. The renovation will be completed this summer with a grand re-opening in July.

Other construction plans discussed were the improvements of the Army, Air Force Exchange (AAFES) at Schinnen. The Food Court will be expanded and the Book Mark will move to the opposite side. The goal is to build a bookstore and coffee shop for

patrons resembling a Barnes and Nobel environment.

Plans for the gas station and full service shoppette will be underway soon. This complex will include a class VI and video rental and have longer operating hours to provide shift workers and other patrons' access to these facilities. This project is expected to be completed in the summer of 2006.

Following the briefings, the floor was opened for questions and comments. Master Sgt. Ian Guy from the Allied Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC) in Maastricht was asked if the basketball shoe selection in AAFES will be widened to include shoes with non-marking soles. Mr. Paul Olney, AAFES manager at Schinnen answered his question.

"We will take a look at the assortment we carry and insure non-marking soles are in stock," said Olney. "We will also take a look

at storage and perhaps arrange a special order, and you can always place an order at AAFES on line" he added.

The last question was from Kim Lowe, Schinnen Thrift Shop volunteer. Her question was how long will the Recycle Center remain open on Saturdays?

"We will keep the Recycle Center open as long as funding allows," said Lt. Col. Richardson. "As you know, with the War on Terror, funds throughout the Army are tight. As long as this facility can afford it, the Recycle Center will remain open on the weekend," he concluded.

Before the meeting concluded, Ruby Ervin, Schinnen Commissary Operations Administrator gave away a \$25 commissary gift certificate won by Carla Kruijzinga who plans to use the money to support the JFC library summer reading program.

254th BSB Tri-border News

Creative Connections - an experience of the arts



Photo by Sylvia Bowron

Kathy TerVeen, far right, talks with students about the Creative Connections trip to Germany. Each have their own stories of what they like best about the week of learning and the projects worked on. Pictured from left to right are Terrell Johnson, Matt Garcia and Kayla Carlson.

By Sylvia Bowron

This year 12 AFNorth International High School students were selected to attend Creative Connections 2005 in Oberwesel, Germany Feb. 20-25. Creative Connections is a six-day advanced visual and performing arts activity which provides students unique opportunities to expand and improve their talents beyond the local high school level. Competition was keen as 260 students applied for the 158 openings. All students were evaluated and selected on the basis of their application, talent and a teacher's recommendation. "Each year, Creative Connections offers 11 workshops that give students of the arts activities that allow them to expand and improve their talents beyond what is available in the local school," said Kathy TerVeen, AFNORTH International Schools Program Coordinator. "Students come from places as far away as Iceland and Siganelia, Italy. The students, who are selected exhibit responsibility, are driven in the arts, and want to experience more than what is available at the local high school level," said TerVeen.

TerVeen, who instructs a workshop of her own on Contemporary Printmaking, was excited about two of this year's guest instructors, Dick Termas whose workshop is on Spherical Thinking – drawing in 360 degrees and Kurt Wenner whose students will explore the use of various media in multi-dimensional drawing.

"Both of these artists are pretty amazing in what they offer our students," TerVeen said enthusiastically. "Other workshop subjects offered include etching, oil pastel, plaster sculpture, drawing (with Kurt), six point perspective painting on spheres, as well as performing arts workshops on percussion, show choir, Commedia del'arte drama and strings," she continued.

"Students, teachers and staff stay in a local youth hostel," said TerVeen. "The students arrive Sunday afternoon and workshops begin that evening after dinner. It's exciting because everyone is busy and focused. Yet the focus is intense. We all have the same goal, which is to create something wonderful," she exclaimed softly.

"Workshops are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and there is a lot of interaction between the students, staff and teachers. In the evening, they get together again to prepare for a special art show, as well as musical and theatrical performances.

"They work intensely all week, culminating in the art show vernissage, and a grand performance on Thursday evening when the parents and guests are invited to celebrate the week's accomplishments," she said with a

smile. "Going to the art show is like walking into a gallery exhibition," TerVeen reflected. "Parents will enjoy the comedy, drama and musical performances," she concluded.

TerVeen stated that students, teachers and staff learn from their experiences that week. "Some students told me they didn't want to leave because it was great being with other students who thought and felt the same way about their particular interest. They come back absolutely high from their learning and working experiences," said TerVeen.

Even the parents are astounded by what they see and

hear at the Thursday evening show. "One time I had a parent come up to me and say, 'I just want you to know we have seen a light in our daughter's eyes that we have never seen before'" she reflected.

Kayla Carlson, senior at AFNORTH School has been selected each year to participate in the program. "Creative Connections is amazing," said Carlson. "It is one of the best programs that DoDDS has," she added.

This was the first time Matt Garcia, a senior, ever participated in the program. "It was awesome," said Garcia. "It was the best week ever because I got to spend the time with people who were interested in the arts and music just like me," he added.

Terrell Johnson is another senior who attended this year's program. "It was really a cool and good experience," said Johnson. "I met a lot of people I could relate to and connect with," he continued. "What I liked best was seeing everyone else's talent because I don't get to see that type talent anywhere else. I found a place where I fit in," Johnson concluded.

Creative Connections celebrated its 25th anniversary and the theme this year was "Reflections".

TerVeen, a teacher for 36 years, is excited about this year's program. "Our kids were absolutely wonderful," said TerVeen. "They out shone the others on all levels.

"In the Thursdays evening performance Shawn Miller did a drum solo, Terrell Johnson a vocal solo and Matt Garcia did a cello solo," she said a twinkle in her eye. "Some of our art students are multi-talented and performed musically," TerVeen continued. "Natalie Pieterse and Thurid Bahr sang a duet and Deniz Erkli accompanied a group of singers on the piano.

"The pressure was on for Turid Bahr as she was selected to act as translator at the ceremony celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Creative Connections," said TerVeen. "She translated the speech given by the mayor of Oberwesel, and other dignitaries. Bahr translated German to English for the German speakers and from English to German for the English speaking dignitaries," she added. "Our kids were all just wonderful."

Creative Connections is celebrating its 25th anniversary and the theme this year is "Reflections". The cost for the Creative Connections activity is primarily covered by Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe (DoDDS-Europe) who contracts for the guest instructors, provides all transportation costs for students and staff, and arranges and purchases all supplies. Students pay a registration fee to cover the cost of room, board and incidentals.

BOSS delivers treats for troops

The Tri-Border Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) members delivered treats to injured troops at Landstuhl Army Medical Center Feb. 14, to help boost morale. Six Soldiers and one civilian delivered teddy bears, chocolates and other treats donated by commu-

nity members.

BOSS members would like to thank all those who donated items and treats for this cause. The donations were greatly appreciated by all those at the medical center who are recuperating from various injuries.



Photo courtesy of BOSS

Pictured from left to right are Sgts. Juarez Jarmen, Iquinetta Candler, Mecheundra Jackson and Bettye Dodd of AFNorth Battalion, Senior Airman Vanessa Brown, Geilenkirchen, Ada Cota and Staff Sgt. Maurice Hart.

254th BSB Tri-border News

254th BSB Local Calendar

AFAP conference scheduled

The Schinnen Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) Conference is scheduled for Mar. 10-11 at the JFC International Chapel, Brunssum.

The community is encouraged to support AFAP by submitting issues throughout the community at various drop box locations or directly at the ACS office. Call Sheilla Lee at DSN 360-7263 or 31 46 443-7263 for information.

Anheuser-Busch Cos. Inc. 'Heroes Salute' is offering a free single-day admission to its Sea World and Busch Gardens parks to active duty military, active reservists, U.S. Coast Guard, National Guardsmen. The program began Feb. 7, and continues through Dec. 31, to honor U.S. Armed Services personnel.

Military personnel and their families who may be taking leave, or who have family in the states may take advantage of the program by registering at www.herosalute.com. Dependents may take advantage of the offer without their service member, though an adult must accompany minor dependents. For more information go to www.herosalute.com.

Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program

A team from the Tri-Border's Installation Delivery System (IDS), which includes clinic personnel, is organizing a one-day couple's communication class which will be held at the Geilenkirchen Chapel, Mar 12, from 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. This class will help Tri-Border couples develop stronger relationships and is by appointment only.

Breakfast/lunch and refreshments are available. Child care available by appointment only. For info or to register, call GK Life Skills Clinic at 49 245 199-3378. Points of

contact are Maj. Connie Johnmeyer, Staff Sgt Vidalia Owens or Staff Sgt Charles Griffiths.

Volunteers recognized

Army Community Services holds the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony Apr. 19, 4-6 p.m. Info: Teri Ryan at DSN 360- 7451 or 31 46 443-7451.

Geilenkirchen clinic holiday closure

The Geilenkirchen U.S. Medical Clinic will be closed for the NATO holidays March 25-28, for Good Friday and Easter Monday.

For medical emergencies during this time, go to the nearest civilian emergency room. Patients who do not have a 470th Medical Flight Clinic Handbook which lists emergency room directions should be sure to get and keep a copy of this booklet in their home. A copy of the latest edition, may be obtained at the TRICARE office.

Toll free access numbers to a confidential 24/7 health advice line staffed by U.S. nurses are as follows: Germany: 0800 825-1600; Netherlands: 0800 022-7944 and Belgium: 0800-71920.

Fire prevention tips

Within the U.S. Army in Europe unattended cooking is one of the major causes of fires in housing. These kinds of fires usually start because people leave the kitchen, frequently due to a distraction, while something is cooking on the stove.

If you are cooking "do not leave the kitchen" without taking precautions. If you have to leave the kitchen for some reason turn down the heat on the stove at least, even better is to turn off the heat. There is no excuse for an unattended cooking fire!

Should you be confronted with a cooking fire DO NOT attempt to extinguish the fire with water. If you

are confronted with a cooking fire: Turn off the heat.

If possible: turn off the oven hood.

Cover the pan with a lid or a damp towel.

Do not move the pan.

Leave to cool off for at least 15 minutes.

Remember to **never** leave cooking unattended. POC is Mr. Rob Walraven, DPW Fire Chief, DSN 360-7230.

On-duty courses offered by the Treebeek Education Center

Dutch Headstart classes will be held Mar. 29 – Apr. 8, and May 31 – Jun. 10, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Monday through Friday at the education center. All military newcomers and their family members are welcome to participate in the Headstart classes. The program is free of charge and designed to acquaint participants with their host nation.

The Advanced Skill Education Program (ASEP) course, MTPF 1170, Personal Financial Management for NCOs I, is offered Apr. 18 – 22 from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Monday-Friday at the Treebeek Education Center. The course is also offered at the unit based on unit request and student availability. This course is designed to enhance leadership and job skills and students can receive one hour civilian college credit also. Units can MIPR the course for on-site training.

Functional Academic Skills Training (FAST) is being offered Mar. 4 – 25, and Jun 3 – 24, Monday through Friday from 1 – 5 p.m. FAST is a job-related reading and mathematics program. Being able to solve problems, understand what is read and also write effectively as necessary to succeed in any field.

For more information on these classes call the Education Center at DSN 364-6060/41 or CIV 31 45 563-6060/41.

Couples Communication Class set

Army Community Services (ACS) Couples Communication (PREP) Classes are offered the last Tuesday and Wednesday night of each month. The next class is set for

March 29-30, 6-8 p.m. at ACS.

Military Benefits and Entitlements class

Army Family Team Building (AFTB) is offering a class in Basic Military Benefits and Entitlements Mar. 17 from 2-3:30 p.m. in the ACS Conference room. Call DSN 360-7464 or 31-(0) 46 443-7464 for info and to register.

Thrift Shop news

The Thrift Shop at Schinnen is open Wed. – Sat. from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. and Sun. noon – 4 p.m. Please make an appointment for all consignments, (046) 443-7436. The following items are being collected for the Kabul Project:

Small Change – any currency, toiletries and school supplies, toys from Kid's Meals, non-breakable toys and stuffed animals, clothes, shoes, blankets and other household items. The Thrift Shop is also collecting books and videos for deployed personnel.

Some ways to help support the local Thrift Shop are:

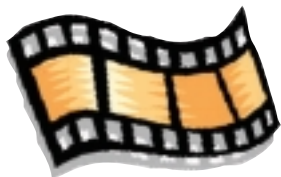
Five-Minute Volunteer: Mail a box to Kabul. One-Hour Volunteer: The Kabul Project meets every Tuesday (except coffee morning) at 10 a.m. to sort, box, and mail donations. On coffee mornings, they meet at 12:30 p.m. Coffee morning is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the International Inn. One-Hour Volunteer: The Thrift Shop needs extra hands to sort, price, and display merchandise.

Donate mailing tape the Kabul Project and canned soda for our volunteers. Or, fill out the green customs forms at home then drop them off the next time you are at Schinnen.

From:	To:
CMR 460 Box (blank)	Community Relations
APOAE 09703	APOAE 09356

The Sort Center at Schinnen is now open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. The Sort Center accepts paper, metal, plastic, wood, ceramics, electronics, bio-hazard, and yard waste and is open Mon.–Fri., 9-10 a.m. and 2 – 3 p.m. On your way to the Sort Center, stop by the Thrift Shop to see if we have any recyclables.

The American Souses Club is sponsoring a drive to collect "school supplies to send to Iraq and Afghanistan. Collected school supplies will be assembled into kits for the children. The Merritt family, from Geilenkirchen are boxing and mailing donations as a family project. Items being collected are: new or slightly used backpacks, 12 inch ruler with metric markings, blunt end scissors, pencils, large erasers, colored pencils, notebook paper, composition books, folders with pockets and pencil bags. Donations may be dropped off at the Thrift shop at Schinnen or at the Family Support Center at Geilenkirchen. Call 0245 210 6705 for information.



JFC Alliance Theater

AFNORTH Alliance Theater

Mar. 11, 7:30 p.m. *White Noise*. Starring Michael Keaton, Chandra West. Rated PG-13. Jonathan Rivers is contacted by a man who claims to be receiving messages from his dead wife through something he calls "Electronic Voice Phenomena". Jonathan is at first skeptical, but then becomes convinced EVP is real and tries to contact her himself.

Mar. 12, 4 p.m. *Fat Albert*. Starring Kenan Thompson, Kyla Pratt. Rated PG. Fat Albert and the Cosby Kid step out of a TV one day and into modern-day America, where they discover pop-top cans, shopping malls, rap and girls, girls, girls.

7 p.m. *Woman Thou Art Loosed*. Starring Kimberly Elise, Loretta Devine. Rated R. Based on Bishop T.D. Jakes' self-help novel, Michelle Jordan grows up in an environment of abuse and molestation by the hands of her mother's boyfriend, while her mother looks the other way. These circumstances lead young Michelle into the dark abyss of drugs, prostitution and prison. Michelle is forced to do some soul-searching that takes her on a journey to recovery and resolve.

Mar. 13, 1 p.m. *Meet The Fockers*.

Starring Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller. Rated PG-13. Now that Greg Focker is "in" with his soon-to-be-in-laws, Jack and Dina Byrnes, it looks like smooth sailing for him and his fiancée, Pam. But that's before Pam's parents meet Greg's parents, the Fockers. The Fockers and the Byrneses are woefully mismatched from the start, and no matter how hard Greg and Pam try, there is just no bringing their families together.

Mar. 18, 7:30 p.m. *Elektra*. Starring Jennifer Garner, Terence Stamp. Rated PG-13. When Elektra is released from the hospital after a near-death experience, she becomes an assassin trained by a crew of killers known as The Order of the Hand. Their leader, Kirigi, sends Elektra on a mission to kill Mark Miller and his young daughter, Abby. Soon, however, Elektra befriends her would-be victims and defends them both from Kirigi's ninja assassins.

Mar. 19, 4 p.m. *Racing Stripes*. Voice of Frankie Muniz, Hayden Panettiere. Rated PG. In the middle of a raging thunderstorm, a traveling circus accidentally leaves behind a baby zebra. The foal is rescued by horse farmer Nolan Walsh. The Walsh farm borders the Turfway Racetrack, where highly

skilled thoroughbreds compete for horse racing's top honor, the Kentucky Crown. Stripes knows that if he could just get the chance, he could leave all those other horses in the dust. What he doesn't know is that he's not exactly a horse.

7 p.m. *Blade: Trinity*. Starring Wesley Snipes, Kris Kristofferson. Rated R. Realizing they may never be able to defeat the vampire hunter known as Blade, the vampires set him up to appear like a psychopathic serial killer. The plan is successful and with the FBI on his tail, Blade's ability to hunt vampires is limited severely, even as they have awakened the granddaddy of them all, Dracula. To take on the threat of this most powerful vampire, Blade accepts the help of a team of human vampire hunters called the Nightstalkers.

Mar. 25, 7:30 p.m. *In Good Company*. Starring Dennis Quaid, Topher Grace. Rated PG-13. Dan is demoted from head of ad sales in a corporate takeover. His new boss, Carter, is half his age and a business school prodigy who preaches corporate synergy. Both men are going through turmoil at home. Dan and Carter's relationship is thrown into jeopardy when Carter begins an affair with Dan's daughter.

Leisure Activities ~ by Rita Hoefnagels

Mar. 12-13: *Mega Flea Market* at Brabanthallen in Den Bosch (NL).

British Cars & Lifestyle Fair at Autotron in Rosmalen (NL). A must for British car and lifestyle enthusiasts with cars such as Jaguars, Aston Martin, Austin Healy and Rover but also typical British products for the house, such as home and garden decorations, China, furniture, antique and more. Open: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Entry: Euro 12.50. Information: www.britishcarsandlifestyle.nl or 31 (0)35-6836990.

Mar. 11-13: *The European Fine Art Fair (TEFAF)*, is an international art and antiques fair at MECC in Maastricht (NL). Admission is Euro 35 per person incl. one catalogue; Euro 7.50 children from 12 to 18 years. More information: www.tefaf.com.

Motor Fair at Jaarbeurs in Utrecht (NL), featuring motorbikes, accessories, information and lots more. Entry is Euro 12. Information: 31 (0)76-5652235. **Garden Variety**, a large indoor garden fair at IJsselhallen in Zwolle (NL). Entry: Euro 9. Information: 31 (0)38-4211843.

Mar. 19: *Quiltshow* at Het Duysterhuisje, Duisterweg 5 in Hooglanderveen (NL). Quilt exhibition in the beautiful

antique interior of an Old Dutch Farm. Open: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Info: 31 (0)33-4552074.

Annual Saint Jozef ("St. Joep") Market in the center of Sittard (NL), 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

Mar. 22: Performance *Jack Million Band*, with music from stars as Sinatra, Nat King Cole, Glenn Miller and others at Fort Sint Pieter on Luikerweg 80 in Maastricht (NL). Admission: Euro 5. Information: 31 (0)43-3217133.

Mar. 24-May 20: The "*Keukenhof*," the world's largest flower garden near the city of Lisse in the Dutch province of "Noord-Holland" is open again. The park owes its name to Countess Jacoba van Beieren who had herbs and vegetables for her kitchen grown in her garden. Over six million flower bulbs provide beautiful scenic spots throughout the park and three large glass flower palaces are filled with tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and smaller flowers. The several flower shops in the park can mail bulbs to the States for customers. Open daily, 8 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Admission booths close at 6 p.m. Entry is Euro 12.50; children ages 4-11 years Euro 5.50. Information: www.keukenhof.nl.

SHAPE / Chièvres Local Calendar

Job Opportunities brief is every Wednesday, 9 a.m.-noon, ACS, Bldg. 318, SHAPE.

Story Time is back at Chièvres Library, every Thursday afternoon, 4:30-5 p.m.

New: Family Readiness Group (FRG) meetings every 2nd Friday of the month from 7-8.30 p.m. at the Prime Time Lounge.

Red Cross training - CPR/FA class provides training in cardiac, choking and respiratory emergencies for adults, children and infants. March 22-23, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

SHAPE Athletics - Volleyball season starts March 15; Softball Coaches meeting, March 30, time TBA, season starts April 19.

SACEUR Sports: *Ten-Pin Bowling*, March 24, time TBA; *Monthly Fun Run* at Main gym, March 24, sign up at 12:20 p.m., run starts at 12:30 p.m., POC Cpl. Pitts, DSN 423-3945. Now accepting head coaching resumes for SHAPE men's and women's Softball Team, Info: Steve Richardson, DSN 423-3905.

Arts and Crafts Centre - *Children's classes at the during spring recess*, March 28-April 8, with activities for children as young as 3 years. Info and schedule: DSN 423-4680.

Entertainment Centre news - *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, Music by Alan Menken, Lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice; Book by Linda Woolverton, Performances March 11-12, 17-19, 7:30 p.m.; March 12 and 19, 2 p.m.; March 13 and 20, 3 p.m. *Auditions for A Few Good Men*, By Aaron Sorkin, April 11-15. *Advanced Acting Class* by Dan Lamorte, April 18-19, 6-9 p.m., depending on number of participants. Shape Entertainment Centre Info: www.shapeonline.net, DSN 423-3312, 065 44 33 12, email jacqueline.collins@benelux.army.mil. Box Office hours, 2-5:30 p.m.

ACS Newcomers Briefing: Take the Bus

Automakers recall vehicles for safety concerns

Several safety recall notices have been issued for privately-owned vehicles. The list includes:

Make	Model	Year
Buick	Skylark	1998
Chevrolet	Cavalier	1998-2001
Ford	Expedition	2000
Ford	F-150	2000
Ford	F Series super crew trucks	2001
Lincoln	Navigator	2000
Oldsmobile	Achieva	1998
Pontiac	Grand Am	1998
Pontiac	Sunfire	1998-2001

For more information, owners of the above mentioned vehicles should visit the website: <http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems/recalls/recallsearch.cfm>. Owners of the Ford vehicles can also contact the Ford's Customer Assistance Center at 1-800-392-3673.



PHOTO: J.D. Hardesty

Benelux Lunch: Bernadette Dupuis (left) and Laurette Mauro build a small snowman during their lunch at Caserne Daumerie, Chièvres, Belgium. Unseasonable weather over the past few weeks left snow across the 80th Area Support Group footprint, with more wintery mix in the forecast.

class is Friday, March 11, 1.30-5 p.m. Starting in April the Newcomers Orientation will be all in the same week, starting with the Newcomer's Brief on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, followed by Take the Bus class on Thursday, Take the Train class on Friday and Cultural Adaptation Trip on Saturday. For details contact ACS at 423-4332. **Spring Bazaar** sponsored by the SAHS Scholarship Committee on March 12 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and March 13, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at

NSA Brussels Calendar

Parenting Class, Building Courage, Character and Self-Esteem, March 14, 21, 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m., NSA Chapel, Fellowship Hall. Sign up: DSN 368-9783.

NSA Outdoor Recreation day trips: March 12; Paris, March 19. Info: DSN 368-9775.

Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders USO tour

Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders USO tour shows are scheduled March 14, in Volkel, NPC NATO, JFC Brunssum and Geilenkirchen, and March 15 at Chievres Air Base.

March 14 -- Handshake, autograph and photo sessions
Volkel — 10 a.m. to noon,
NPC NATO — 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.,
March 15 -- Handshake, autograph and photo sessions
JFC Brunssum – 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Geilenkirchen – 11 a.m. to noon
One hour show plus autograph and photo session
Chievres – 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

the SHAPE International School Complex. Info and details at DSN 423-5718.

Prime Time Lounge: St. Patty's Day Party on March 17. Door opens at 5 p.m. Details at DSN 361-5540. Every Friday at 8.30 p.m. Karaoke, every 2nd Saturday of the month Country Night.

SHAPE Officers' Club Easter Brunch Sunday, March 20, begins at 11:30 a.m. To make a reservation, please call 065 444143.

SHAPE Trips and Tours - *On sale* a limited number of Euro season passes to Walibi (formerly Six Flags) pre-season price: Euro 48. Trips: March 12, Thermae 2000; March 18, Irish Pub Crawl; March 19 and April 30, Horseback Riding in Chaleux; March 19, Ghent and Brügge; March 20 and April 24, Horseback Riding in Cuesmes; March 25, Luxembourg Encore!; March 26, Paris; March 29 Aqualibi; March 30, Dutch Royal Palace Het Loo and Holland's National Park De Hoge Veluwe; April 1-8, Spain; April 2, Lille; April 5, Han-sur-Lesse; April 9, Fontainebleau; April 11-16, Two Country Shopping Tour; April 16, Delft and Keukenhof; April 17, Rhine River Cruise; April 23, Versailles.

Bldg. 307, Community Activity Centre, SHAPE. Info: 065 44 3884, DSN 423-3884, Fax 065 84 5154, Email: ST&T@benelux.army.mil.

March 12, Ghent and Bruges. Depart 8 a.m. from NSA-S (BAS) for all-day trip. Discover the medieval cities of Ghent and Bruges, all in one day! The price for adults is \$45.00 and the price for children is \$35.00.

April 2, Canterbury: Departing from NSA-S (BAS) at 5 a.m. and returning at 10:30 p.m. Brussels to Calais, where a P&O Car Ferry to Dover (U.K.) Enjoy the English breakfast and shopping on board, with a planned stop at Dover Castle for pictures only and drive on to Canterbury. Cost is \$45 for adults \$39 for children.

Metro Madness Class: March 18, 9.25 a.m.-2.30 p.m., ACS. DSN 368-9729.

NSA CYS: March 26 Easter egg hunt, face painting, egg coloring and egg toss. Info: 02-717-9665.

Volunteer Recognition Ceremony will be held April 20 in the NSA Three Star Lounge from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Free childcare provided by Youth Services for grades K-12. RSVP 02/717-9651.



Meteor-Heraut Deadline and Publication Dates

Copy due (noon)	Print Date	Copy due (noon)	Print Date	Copy due (noon)	Print Date	Copy due (noon)	Print Date
March 14	March 25	April 11	April 22	May 9	May 20	June 6	June 17
March 28	April 8	April 25	May 6	May 23	June 3	June 20	July 1

About Us

Meteor-Heraut

The *Meteor-Heraut* is the authorized unofficial Army newspaper published under AR 360-1 for 80th Area Support Group personnel. Editorial content is provided by the 80th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office and the 254th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office. Opinions expressed are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 80th Area Support Group. The *Meteor-Heraut* is published twice per month. Circulation is 3,000. Our mailing address is Meteor-Heraut, HQ 80th ASG, Unit 21419, Public Affairs Office, APO AE 09708. Telephone: DSN 361-5419; fax: DSN 361-5106; civilian telephone prefix: 068 27-5419. The country code for Belgium is 32. Email address: meteor@benelux.army.mil

Policy

- We encourage letters to the editor, but they must be signed. We will consider withholding the name of the author upon request. Letters regarding an issue should contribute to informational interest.
 - We reserve the right to edit all material for style, to fit available space, to resolve libel, safety or force protection issues and to correct grammar.
 - Articles in plain text and separate photographic files may be submitted but publication depends upon the judgment of the editor. All submissions should be in electronic form as plain text. We cannot process information in documents such as PowerPoint, Excel or Acrobat.
 - Event announcements must use civilian dates and times. Spell out acronyms and include a contact name, telephone number and e-mail address. We cannot reproduce prepared flyers in the Meteor-Heraut.
- ### Advertising
- Messages from readers from profit and non-profit organizations which involve money exchange constitutes advertising.
 - Neither the *Meteor-Heraut* staff nor other public affairs personnel can accept advertising requests.
 - The appearance of advertising, including inserts, does not constitute

endorsement of the products or services offered. Everything advertised must be available for purchase, use or patronage, without discrimination.

- Any gambling or lottery requiring payment for chance cannot be advertised as stated in 18 U.S.C. 1302.

Deadline

Copy and photographs are due by noon 10 calendar days before publication date.

Commanders

Col. Dean A. Nowowiejski	80th Area Support Group
Lt. Col. Richard S. Richardson	254th Base Support Battalion
Lt. Col. Jon M. Davis Jr.	NATO Support Activity
Public Affairs Officers and personnel	
Marie-Lise Baneton	80th Area Support Group
Laurri Garcia	254th Base Support Battalion
Rick Haverinen	Writer
J.D. Hardesty	Writer
Sylvia Bowron	Writer

NATO Storm takes Jr. girls tourney

By J.D. Hardesty

BRUSSELS -- NSA Brussels' Storm used precision passing, a balanced scoring attack and a home court advantage to dominate the 80th Area Support Group's Basketball Tournament (Jr. girls) Feb. 26.

By winning the tournament, the Storm will represent the 80th ASG at the Installation Management Agency-Europe's Champion-



(Left) Cornellia Notarianni, No. 6, Allied Forces North, Lions from Schinnen, the Netherlands, looks for an opening in the lane during the 80th Area Support Group's Basketball Tournament (Jr. girls) Feb. 26. The NSA Brussels' Storm used precision passing and a balanced scor-

ships in Bamberg, Germany March 11-13.

The Storm swept through the four-team tournament, initially beating Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe's "A" team from Mons, Belgium, followed by victories against Allied Forces North Lions representing Schinnen, the Netherlands.

The Lions reached the semi-finals by knocking off SHAPE's "B" team 18-16, in its opening round victory, before falling to the Storm 25-15 in the semis. Kara Murray, Tia Rhodes and Kaitlynn Oppenheim tossed in six points each to lead the Storm. Cornellia Notarianni led the Lions with six points.

Fighting through the losers bracket,

SHAPE's "A" team dispatched SHAPE's "B" team from Mons, before battling the Lions for a chance to play in the championship game of the double-elimination tournament.

SHAPE's "A" team was leading the Lion's 11-7, in a physical battle with one minute to go in the first half. SHAPE Coach Caprice Walker pulled her players over to the bench.

After already having a technical foul called on her and arguing several referees' whistles, Walker pulled her players off the court and forfeited the game, along with the team's chances of qualifying for the IMA-E championships. After about a five minute discussion with tourney staff, SHAPE "A" left the gym.

Several of the stunned parents sitting in the stands rhetorically stated, "That teaches the kids a valuable life's lesson."

Others expressed concern because they were embarrassed over the entire situation for the ballplayers as many stood next to the locker room in tears as they gathered their possessions prior to exiting the gym.

Barbara Troxell, the mother of two SHAPE "A" team players responded to the question for the forfeiture reasoning, "The game was getting pretty physical and coach Walker "didn't feel the referees were controlling the game and was worried for the safety of her players. I agreed with her decision."



PHOTOS: J.D. Hardesty

ing attack to dominate the tourney and qualify for the Installation Management Agency-Europe's Championships in Bamberg, Germany March 11-13. (Right) Jazmine Washington, playing for the SHAPE "B" team dives for a loose ball in an elimination game with SHAPE's "A" team.

NSA Brussels tops 80th ASG, tournament

The SHAPE Unit-Level Basketball regular season ended Feb. 8 with the 80th Area Support Group being crowned regular season champions and U.S. Army NATO (USAN) finishing in as runners-up.

The top four teams battled to see which two teams would qualify to represent SHAPE at the 80th ASG Unit Level Basketball Tournament the following week.

The first game of the qualifying playoff saw a slight upset when the No. 3-seeded SHAPE Healthcare Facility (SHF) defeated the No. 2-seed USAN, 62-51.

Top seed 80th ASG dominated fourth-seed NATO CIS services Agency-Mons 92-39, completely controlling the game from start to finish.

The 80th ASG and SHAPE Healthcare Facility both qualified for the 80th ASG Basketball Tournament, held at SHAPE's Main Gem Feb. 19.

The two teams from SHAPE and a team from NATO Support Activity in Brussels competed in the 80th ASG Basketball Tournament Championship.

In the first game SHAPE Healthcare Facility held their own against NSA Brussels until Christopher Roach was injured and could not continue to play.

NSA Brussels then commenced to run away with the game, out scoring their opponents in the second half 31-19.

The 80th ASG eliminated SHAPE Healthcare Facility in the second game setting up the two entries into the championship game.

The final pitted two evenly-matched teams in a close game until the final minute when NSA Brussels pulled away by scoring the final five points in route to a 46-41 victory.

These two teams were set at press time to represent the 80th ASG at the IMA-E Unit-Level Basketball Championships in Wuerzburg, Germany, March 3-6.

Tournament results:

Feb 15
SHAPE Healthcare Facility 62, USAN 51
80th ASG 92, NCSA Mons 39

Feb. 17
80th ASG 61, SHAPE Healthcare Facility 41

80th ASG Unit Level Basketball Tournament Feb. 19
NSA Brussels 66, SHAPE Healthcare Facility 35
80th ASG 88, SHAPE Healthcare Facility 38
NSA Brussels 46, 80th ASG 41.



PHOTO: Rick Haverinen

Michael Munson, NATO Support Activity Clinic, No. 14, grabs a rebound beneath the 80th Area Support Group basket Feb. 19 at the SHAPE Main Gym in the final game of the 80th ASG Unit-Level Basketball Championship, as Steven "Chase" Turbitt, No. 1, and Raymond Berry, No. 4, both of the 80th ASG Provost Marshal's Office, look on.

Sport Brief

Important notice: Due to yearly maintenance of high voltage sub stations the Main Athletic center and Green Gymnasium will operate according to the following schedule. April 1– Green Gym will open at 7:20 a.m.; Apr 15 – Main Gym will open at 7:30 a.m.

SACEUR Volleyball Results

Team	Points	Place
USA	20	1st
German-Czech	18	2nd
DNTNPILLS	16	3rd
BFL	14	4th
UK	12	5th
IGPSHBRES	7	6th

SACEUR next sports competition — Ten Pin Bowling, March 24, 1 p.m. at the Pizza Bowl.

SACEUR Overall standings

Team	Points	Place
USA	10	1st
German-Czech	9	2nd
DNTNPILLS	8	3rd
BFL	7	4th
UK	6	5th
IGPSHBRES	5	6th

SHAPE fun run results:

Finish	Name	Country	Time
1	John Heaver	UK	22.59
2	Patrick Depelchin	Bel	24.43
3	Fabian Saintgislain	Bel	28.10
4	Tom Walker	UK	28.23
5	Jon Bingham	UK	28.25
6	Ian Birdsall	UK	28.35
7	Mark Thomas	UK	28.52
8	David Kelly	UK	29.20
9	Julio Lezzeri	Be	29.37
10	Paul Kennedy	UK	29.44
11	Fabienne Kuypers*	Be	30.17
12	Per Hinrichsen	Da	30.22
13	Melissa Novakovich*	US	31.17
14	Karen Handford*	UK	33.15
15	Lorraine Burrell*	UK	33.15
16	Nicola Wilson*	UK	33.36
17	Michel Detez	Be	33.42
18	Katrina Walley*	UK	36.07
19	Jim Hamelton	US	36.19
20	Justine Howe*	UK	37.45
21	Melanie Woods*	UK	37.55
22	Maicia Klein*	US	38.59
23	Robin Albertson*	US	45.17
24	Joyce Hartley*	US	56.00

*Denotes Ladies